



TEC

TOWNSEND ENERGY COMMITTEE

272 Main Street

Townsend, Massachusetts, MA 01469

Michael Brown, Ph.D, Edward Hermann, Kathy Thompson, Brent Carney

OCTOBER 28, 2015
TOWNSEND ENERGY COMMITTEE
ROOM 2 - MEMORIAL HALL
7 PM
Meeting Minutes

- 1. Call the meeting to order:** Chairman Carney called the meeting to order at 7:16pm. Present were members Brent Carney (BC), Kathy Thompson (KT), and Mike Brown (MB) and Land Use Coordinator Karen Chapman (KC). Absent was Ed Hermann.
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: 9/23/15:** MB moved to accept the minutes of 9/23/15 as written. KT seconded with all voting in favor.
- 3. Discuss Municipal Electricity Aggregation:**
An RFP will be issued for someone to manage the aggregation for us, including all the work to join. The electricity generator would pay the company. BC thought more due diligence needs to be done to check with other towns and joining with them. BC states the public education component should be bolstered to include a residential marketing component – proactive about why we are doing it and the benefits. We should gather info from other town managers on how it is working for them. How much of the generation is from a renewable source. We should match whatever the state guideline is for percentage of renewable energy (12% by 2017). There is a question of whether this is an opt-in or an opt-out system for the residents.
- 4. Update on streetlight purchase:**
Info obtained from Holyoke Gas & Electric Company engineer on LED streetlights. KC will look into process and talk to Andy if he wants our help moving forward.
- 5. Discuss Goals for FY16:**
Each committee member researched what other towns' energy committees are doing. Concord has a Master Energy Plan that is very comprehensive. Ayer,

Amherst, and Shirley all have solar projects going on. Ayer negotiated a 20 year net metering contract. Streetlight retrofits are being done by all 3 of these towns. Chelmsford is working on municipal aggregation and do have net metering. All energy used by Bolton town buildings are offset by solar and they are selling net metering credits to other towns. Carlisle has a lot of how to's, a solar challenge, a goal to double residential solar from 70 to 140. They also have the Kilo-watt for residents to use. Carlisle also has a section for environmental issues - composting, rebates for heat pumps, climate change, EPA Enviro-tips, links for websites, checklist that people can print out and use for their homes, and a kids page. Carlisle has partnered with the Mass Climate Action Network.

We should set goals for the committee and for the town as a whole. May be a good idea to create our own Energy Master Plan and be the facilitator of the Plan. Other stakeholders would need to be involved and have goals for departments or buildings or whole town in regards to energy efficiency.

6. **Topics not reasonably expected by the chair 48 hours before the meeting:** none.
7. **Schedule Next Meeting:** will discuss by email
8. **Adjourn:** MB moved to adjourn at 8:24pm. KT seconded with all in favor.

Minutes taken and transcribed by Karen Chapman

All materials used in this meeting can be found in the files of the Land Use office.